



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jose L. Francese et al.

Group Art Unit: 3763

Serial No.: 10/634,049

Examiner:

Filed: 8/4/2003

Attorney Docket: MED-015

Title: Surgical Port Device

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on this day with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

David P. Gordon

Dec 11, 2003

David P. Gordon

Date

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

SUBMITTAL OF DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO DUTY OF DISCLOSURE

Pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure 37 CFR Section 1.56, enclosed is a completed form PTOL-1449 as well as copies of the cited documents that relate to the above-referenced patent application. Since this document submittal is being presented prior to the first examination on the merits, no fee is due herewith.

The listed documents are brought to the Examiner's attention because they are known to the applicant and/or the applicant's attorney and may be considered by the Examiner to be material to his/her examination. This listing should not be construed as representation that a search has been made or that no better art exists. No inference should be made that the documents are in fact material merely because they are referenced herein. Moreover, no representation is made that the brief descriptions of the references herein necessarily describe the most material aspects of the references. Further, by this listing, the applicant is not making any admission regarding the relative dates of the invention and listed disclosures.

Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty Docket No.

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Group

3763

US PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	SubCl	Filing Date if approp.
.	AA	5,817,062	10/98	Flom et al.	604	174	
	AB	5,830,191	11/98	Hildwein et al.	604	175	
	AC	6,432,085	8/02	Stellon et al.	604	164.04	
	AD	6,464,691	10/02	Castaneda et al.	606	1	
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials		Document No.	Date	Country	Class	SubCl	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
.	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED